

A/AC.172/1993/CRP.12
11 May 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES
1993 substantive session
Agenda item 4*

CONTROL AND LIMITATION OF DOCUMENTATION

State of preparation of the documents required for the
substantive session of the Committee on Conferences

Note by the Secretariat

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/190, the present document contains a report on the exact state of preparation of all the documents in all languages requested by the Committee on Conferences at its organizational session on 2 March 1993 for submission during its substantive session in May 1993. A listing of those documents and their current status is shown overleaf. A report on the state of preparation of the documents required for the Committee's resumed substantive session will be submitted in an addendum hereto. A total of 19 documents will have been issued for the May 1993 substantive session of the Committee on Conferences.

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Status</u>
A/AC.172/88/Add.1	Meeting statistics of United Nations organs	To be issued 14 May
A/AC.172/150	Annotated provisional agenda 1993	Issued
A/AC.172/150/Add.1	Agenda and programme of work of the Committee on Conferences 1993	Issued
A/AC.172/151	Calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 1993	Issued

* A/AC.172/150/Add.1.

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Status</u>
A/AC.172/152	Existing conference resources, services and facilities within the United Nations system	To be issued 13 May
A/AC.172/153	United Nations publications policy	Issued
A/AC.172/INF/14	List of members	Issued
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.1	Review of meeting and documentation requirements (UNDP, UNICEF)	Issued
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.2	Review of meetings of organs and programmes not funded from the regular budget of the United Nations	Issued
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.3	Improved coordination of conferences within the United Nations system	To be issued 12 May
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.4	Meeting statistics, experimental methodology	To be issued 17 May
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.5	Conference services at Vienna	To be issued 17 May
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.6	Provision of written meeting records to subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly	To be issued 12 May
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.7	Implementation of paragraph 18 of resolution 47/202 B	To be issued 13 May
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.8	Compliance with the six-week rule	To be issued 12 May
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.9	Application of new technology to conference servicing	To be issued 12 May
A/AC.172/1993/CRP.10	Implementation of paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 47/202 C	To be issued 17 May
A/C.5/47/88	Review of the Office of Conference Services	Issued
A/C.5/48/1	Consolidated statement of scheduled special conferences 1994	Issued

A/AC.172/1993/CRP.13
17 May 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES
1993 substantive session
Agenda item 2 (d)*

CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS: CONSIDERATION OF THE
DRAFT CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY
ORGANS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL FOR 1994-1995

Note by the Secretariat

In adopting decision 1988/103 of 5 February 1988, the Economic and Social Council decided to invite the Committee on Conferences, beginning with the calendar for 1990-1991, to review the Council's draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings and to submit, as appropriate, its recommendations thereon to the Council.

At its 343rd meeting, on 2 March 1993, the Committee on Conferences decided to include in its agenda for 1993 item 2 (d), entitled "Consideration of the draft calendar of conferences and meetings of subsidiary organs of the Economic and Social Council for 1994-1995".

The draft calendar of conferences and meetings of the Economic and Social Council for the biennium 1994-1995 is being circulated in document E/1993/L.20, copies of which will be made available to members of the Committee on Conferences for their consideration.

* A/AC.172/150/Add.1.

A/AC.172/1993/CRP.14
19 May 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES
Substantive session
Agenda item 12*

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Imre KARBUCZKY (Hungary)

XI. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Membership

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 43/222 B, decided to retain the Committee on Conferences as a permanent subsidiary organ. Pursuant to that resolution, the Committee for 1993 was composed of the following Member States: Austria, Chile, Cyprus, Fiji, France, Gabon, Grenada, Honduras, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Russian Federation, Senegal, Turkey and United States of America.

B. Officers

2. The Committee elected the following officers to serve in 1993:

Chairman: Mr. Mahmoud Barimani (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Avni Karslioglu (Turkey)
Mr. Fernando Varela (Chile)
Mr. El Hassane Zahid (Morocco)

Rapporteur: Mr. Imre Karbuczky (Hungary)

* A/AC.172/150/Add.1.

3. The Committee also agreed in principle at its organizational meeting, held on 2 March 1993, that the Chairman would undertake informal consultations with a view to determining the composition of the Committee's Bureau in 1994.

C. Organization of work

4. At the same meeting, the Committee agreed to meet as required to take up matters related to the calendar of conferences and its implementation, in particular the consideration of inter-sessional departures from the approved calendar. Also at the same meeting, the Committee requested the Secretariat to present a draft biennial agenda for 1994-1995 at the organizational session to be held in 1994. The Committee held the first part of its substantive session from 17 to 21 May 1993 and the second part from _____ 1993.

D. Programme of work

5. At its 334th meeting, on 17 March 1992, the Committee requested the Secretariat to present a draft provisional agenda and biennial programme of work, 1994-1995, to its organizational meeting in 1993, which was subsequently issued in document A/AC.172/150 and adopted by the Committee.

6. The Director of Conference Services addressed the Committee at the opening of its organizational and substantive sessions.

XII. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE DURING THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 1992

7. No meetings were held by the Committee on Conferences during the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly. However, the Committee was seized with the following requests:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
UNITAR, Board of Trustees	To hold a special session at Headquarters, from 16 to 18 December 1992	Recommended to the General Assembly that it authorize an exception to section I, paragraph 7, of resolution 40/243, thereby authorizing the Board of Trustees of UNITAR to meet in accordance with its request.

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II)	To convene the organizational session in New York, and the first substantive session in New York or Geneva	Recommended to the General Assembly that it grant an exception to section I, paragraph 4, of resolution 40/243, thereby authorizing the Preparatory Committee to meet away from its established headquarters.
Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa	To convene the organizational session in New York, and substantive sessions in New York and Nairobi	Recommended to the General Assembly that it grant an exception to section I, paragraph 4, of resolution 40/243, thereby authorizing the Intergovernmental committee to meet away from its established headquarters.

A/AC.172/1993/CRP.14/Add.1

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COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES

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ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Imre KARBUCZKY (Hungary)

Addendum

I. CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

(continued)

C. Improved utilization of conference-servicing resources:
meeting statistics of United Nations organs

Introduction and overview

1. Since 1983, the Committee on Conferences has studied a series of reports showing the meeting statistics of a number of United Nations organs in New York, Geneva and Vienna. At its substantive meetings held on 28 August 1990, the Committee agreed to put into experimental use a newly proposed methodology to run parallel with the existing methodology for the next three years.

2. At its 341st meeting, on 27 August 1992, the Committee, inter alia, requested the Secretariat to expand the representational sample of bodies included in future papers on the experimental methodology and to provide a historical perspective of the trends perceived in all future reports on the utilization of conference-servicing resources.

3. In view of its earlier decisions and the requests of the General Assembly contained in paragraphs 13 and 14 of resolution 47/202 A of 22 December 1992, the Committee reviewed two reports at its 348th meeting, on 18 May 1993: A/AC.172/88/Add.11, compiled in accordance with existing methodology, and A/AC.172/1993/CRP.4, compiled in accordance with the new methodology.

* A/AC.172/150/Add.1.

Discussion

4. The view was expressed that, while the experimental methodology constituted a welcome improvement in assessing the utilization of conference resources, it should be further refined, inter alia, by including analysis and commentary, as well as capacity utilization figures.

5. It was suggested that the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences should hold consultations with the Chairmen of the bodies concerned and that the secretariat of the Committee should consult with the secretariats of those bodies in view of the continuity that they provided. While the collection of data on utilization was an interesting exercise in itself, the reason for doing so was to reverse the poor performance of under-utilizers and of those bodies that regularly failed to comply with the rules on the control, limitation and submission of documentation. It was suggested that a higher benchmark figure might be a stimulus in that regard.

6. Although the data did not reveal any clear patterns, the delay in the submission of documentation was believed to be a factor in the under-utilization of conference resources.

7. Clarification was sought and received from the Secretariat regarding the methodologies used and the data presented.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Committee on Conferences looked forward to receiving information on the consultations held with the Chairmen of bodies that had consistently utilized less than 75 per cent of their allocated resources for the last three sessions.

9. It agreed to adopt the experimental methodology on the understanding that the Secretariat would expand the information presented to include analyses of trends perceived and capacity utilization figures.

10. The Committee requested the Secretariat to spare no effort to comply with the six-week rule and to intensify interdepartmental consultations designed to improve performance in utilization and compliance indices.

11. It decided to raise the benchmark figure for utilization of conference-servicing resources to 80 per cent, pending further analysis of the expanded methodology.

12. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should invite those bodies whose utilization factor is below the benchmark figure for three sessions to review and revise, if necessary, the amount of conference-servicing resources requested.
